

Recommendations and Problems  
Monthly Reports for December 1957

CARTOGRAPHY DIVISION

Over the past few months, there has been a gradual increase in work assigned to the Chart and Graph Section of the Division. This has necessitated the temporary transfer of people in order to keep current with the work. If this trend continues, it will be necessary to re-evaluate the responsibilities and organization of this unit.

EUROPE-AFRICA COMPILATION BRANCH

Several NIS Chapter I maps have been completed recently and it is suggested that the D/GC Staff conduct a critical review of this "best seller" with the idea of improvement. A few suggestions have arisen informally - none of which would basically alter the standard specifications now in use but might contribute to the refinement of this particular map series.

Chief, GC/E and Asst. Chief, GC/E, have discussed the possibility of showing only one type of international boundary symbol particularly on classified maps and perhaps on all maps carrying a boundary disclaimer. A formal suggestion with arguments will be presented at some future D/GC staff meeting.

It is suggested that the terrain disclaimer appearing on D/GC maps be deleted on the basis that terrain rendering is not unlike other items which also are subject to map scale limitations. It is felt that the presence of a disclaimer tends to discourage the reader from "taking a second look", - a second look which it justly deserves.

DEVELOPMENT AND CONSTRUCTION BRANCH

The pressure of work in the Chart and Graph Section is gradually increasing each month. It is hoped, however, that adequate support will be supplied by the Drafting Section if work in that Section continues at its present pace.

USSR-Satellites BRANCH

The branch has taken the initiative also in producing an index to existing OCI base maps. There seems to be a good demand for this map series but the absence of a map index has created considerable inconvenience, particularly on rush projects suitable for this map format. This index will be produced in limited quantity by photostat or photography.

FAR EAST COMPILATION BRANCH

There seems to be a problem arising in our relations with ONE. The persons with whom we have had contact in the past have taken on other duties and we are dealing in part with other persons who don't have the know-how

CARTOGRAPHY DIVISION

FAR EAST COMPILATION BRANCH (Cont'd)

as far as getting maps done is concerned. A recent request has turned out that we were asked to produce a map for a meeting which was actually more preliminary than is usually the case. The requesting person seemed also to expect us to do a good deal of the leg work that has been done by persons in ONE heretofore. It is recommended that a review of our relations with ONE be undertaken in order to clarify the mechanics of producing proofs of maps for the meetings for which they are actually required and to remind ONE of the procedures in requesting and securing maps from D/GC.

SPECIAL SUPPORT BRANCH

If there is to be another Civil Defense Alert this year, the map rooms at the White House will have to be supported as has been done previously. If it is possible, would it be determined at this time what should be done and who should do it. It would relieve the pressure considerably if the work could be started within the next month or so, instead of waiting until it becomes a crash project.

MAP LIBRARY DIVISION

PROCESSING BRANCH

For the fourth consecutive month, Cataloging and Indexing Section personnel have absorbed clerical and typing duties related to cataloging.

Preparation of materials for the Depository continues to consume many man hours. During December, 24 hours regular time and 78 hours overtime were spent filing and sorting materials for the Depository. In addition, 134 new items were processed for the Depository.

PROCUREMENT BRANCH

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25X1A9a [REDACTED] mission to [REDACTED] was extended to 19 December so he could continue negotiations for maps published by the Directorate of Survey.

25X1X7 Procurement [REDACTED] has been complicated by the unwillingness of officials to take responsibility for final approval despite an official attitude to the effect that the maps can be made available. After considerable delay, and discussion approval was given to release maps 1:500,000 and smaller, city plans 1:10,000 and smaller and cadastral maps. [REDACTED] was also 25X1A9a

25X1X7 advised by the [REDACTED] that a new request for the remaining maps should be made by the Army Attache on behalf of the Army Map Service.

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PHOTO INTELLIGENCE DIVISION

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[REDACTED] attended the debriefing of [REDACTED]. Upon questioning it was determined that [REDACTED] received no training in the taking of photographs prior to leaving the states. It is felt that this training is a function that could be provided by D/GP.

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GEOGRAPHY DIVISION

The USSR Branch received a memorandum from St/I listing allegedly delinquent evaluations for the month of December. A check of their records showed that of the four listed, three had been completed and forwarded on the dates due and the remaining one was not due until 9 January. Discussion with St/I revealed the fact that our evaluations were beginning to arrive at least two weeks late, due to delays in transit. St/I will seek satisfactory solution to this problem.

The Far East Branch reports as follows: The OCI article on "The Impact on Southeast Asia of the Coalition Government in Laos" (OCI Weekly Summary of 21 November 1957), in addition to being "timely", contained much that was "geographic" in nature. The fact that it appeared in print while [REDACTED] draft of a geographic intelligence memorandum on geo-strategic implications of the same problem was being considered by higher echelons of the Geographic Area points up the chief practical problem of the GM concept as presently understood. Presumably OCI is not restricted from including "geographic intelligence" in their issuances; yet D/GG is not to engage in "current intelligence" production. If D/GG analysts are to be motivated to produce GM's, it would appear necessary to resolve the incongruities in this situation.

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The Coordination Staff reports that it is becoming increasingly obvious to the CIA components that contribute to the NIS Program that there is need for representation on the NIS Committee for the CIA producing units. The initiation and development of the Chapter I Annuals has highlighted this need. The arguments are twofold: 1. The viewpoints of the producing units are not at present taken into consideration in Committee discussions; and 2. Action taken by the Committee is not relayed promptly to the CIA components (notification is through distribution of the minutes, which are sometimes delayed as much as three weeks). As a point in time, minutes of the 17 December meeting of the NIS Committee meeting at which the "trial run" for NIS 14 Poland, Chapter I Annual was approved, were received in D/GG on 6 January; the deadline is 1 February for submission to OBI.

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GEOGRAPHY DIVISION (Cont'd)

EDITING AND REVIEW STAFF

The biggest problem now facing GG/R is the delay in issuing reports after they have been edited. Typing has been held up, largely as a result of Christmas leave; 4 reports are now waiting typing. Maps have been an even greater cause of delay. MR-53 and GR's 162, 164, and 167 are being held up in Reproduction because maps have not been completed (GR-162, since 22 October); and GR-119 has been dittoed and assembled but cannot be issued until the map is finished.

A number of dittoed reports that have been edited by GG/R are being issued without notifying GG/R of the fact, which complicates record keeping. Furthermore, changes have been made in the format and a note was added to all UW reports without notifying GG/R. All of the changes are legitimate, but the editors should know about them in advance in order to avoid giving analysts instructions that conflict with those of the Front Office. The editors also suggest that the approval sheet that accompanies all reports be modified slightly. Another item should be added at the end of the approval column -- which might read "Reproduced Copy Approved by Editors". In this way, the editors would automatically see all dittoed reports immediately before they are released for distribution.

The editors would still like to have a clarification of the definition of "memorandum", especially "intelligence memorandum".

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